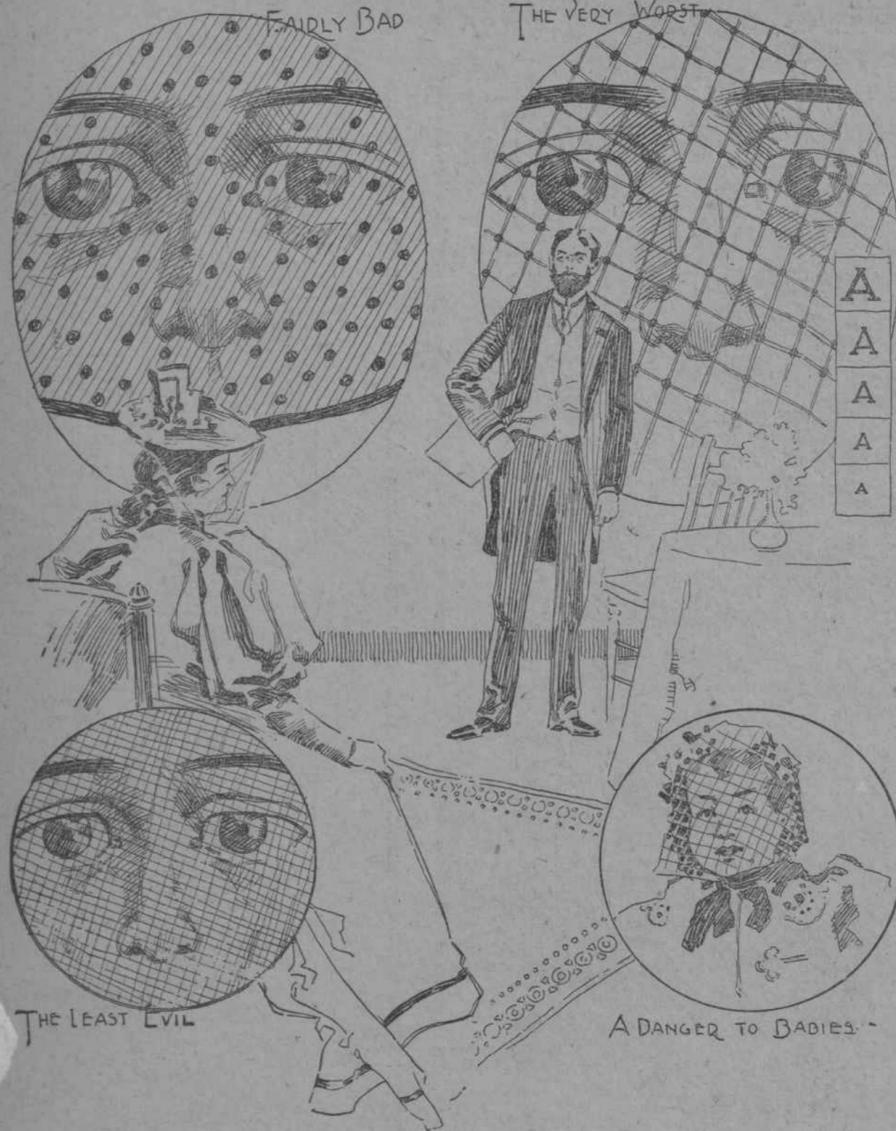


WARNING! TO ALL WOMEN OF FASHION.



Women Made Blind by Wearing Veils.

The wearing of veils and the consequent loss of eyesight, sometimes ending in total blindness, has often been a theory. Now it is a definite fact, scientifically proved by authentic tests.

The physician who has studied the effect upon the eye of the constant wearing of veils is Dr. Casey A. Wood, professor of Ophthalmology at the Post Graduate Medical School, and ophthalmic surgeon to the Parvian Memorial Hospital, in Chicago. He is one of the most eminent eye specialists in the United States. He has done much in the way of determining the exact degree of interference with vision which these ornamental protectors bring about.

It has been determined that a person having a normal vision is able to distinguish with each eye, separately, capital block letters (bold faced type) a quarter of an inch square at a distance of twenty feet, and to read this print, which is known as Diamond, and is the smallest type in use, with ease at a distance of fourteen inches.

With this as a standard, the results of Dr. Wood's experiments were truly remarkable.

The first test was made with a fine black net veil, having small black dots two inches apart and white flowers three inches apart. There were one hundred meshes to the square inch, with the dots one-sixteenth of an inch in diameter.

It was found that almost immediately after putting on the veil, distinct vision was reduced in each eye by two-thirds. Diamond print was read with difficulty through the meshes. When a spot was presented before the pupil, bourgeois was the

smallest type which could be deciphered. A black dotted threaded net was used for the next experiment, with dots one-quarter of an inch in diameter, and numbering nine to the square inch. "With this," Dr. Wood says, "the distant visual acuity is reduced from two-fifths to one-fifth, and the print from Small Pica to Long Primer according as the object is seen through the open meshes or around a spot. All print is greatly blurred."

The finest plain black Brussels net was then tried, with the result that the vision was reduced to three-quarters, and fine print was blurred. The same veil, with pin-head dots, produced the same effect, but a test with plain black chiffon lowered the vision one-half for distance, and raised the type for reading from diamond to Minion.

Dr. Wood's conclusions are:
1. That every description of veil affects, more or less, the ability to see distinctly both in distance and near at hand.

2. The most objectionable kind is the dotted veil, although the influence of this variety for evil is more marked in some samples than others.

3. Other things being equal, in undotted and unfigured veils, vision is interfered with in direct proportion to the number of meshes per square inch.

Another evil of veil wearing is the practice of putting them on the faces of babies when taken out for an airing. All specialists agree that this practice is almost criminal, if continued after a knowledge of its ill effects.

LEGLESS ATHLETES WHO DO

A considerable number of persons are making an excellent livelihood chiefly because they are deficient in legs. Some of them have no legs, others have but one apiece. They are not beggars, but, on the contrary, very industrious and worthy citizens.

Probably the highest place among the legless worthies of this country must be given to Messrs. Ed. F. Hopkins and George B. Hill, who hold remarkable records as runners, walkers, and jumpers.

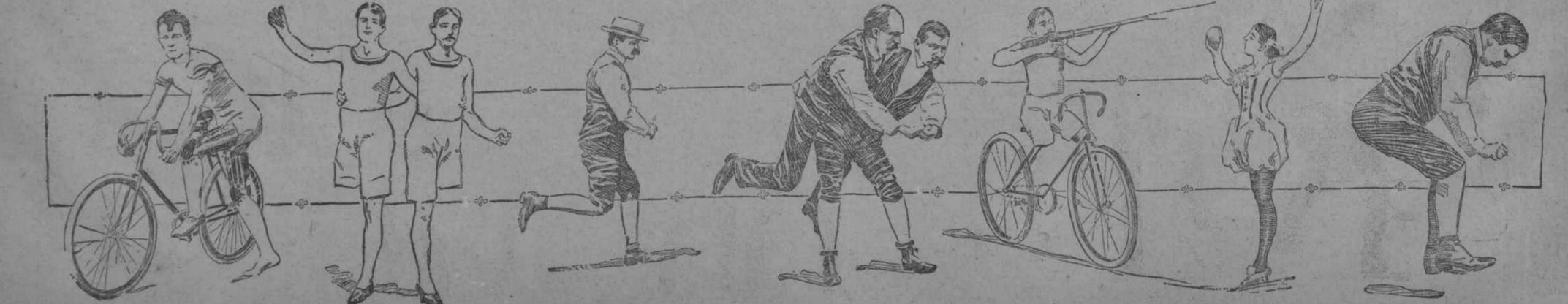
Neither of them has any legs, and each wears a pair of artificial ones. They are able to take part creditably in almost any athletic exercise. It is notable that the sports in which they have achieved distinction are ones in which leg work is the chief feature.

One of Ed. Hopkins's great performances was made at the meeting of the Iowa State Fair Association in 1893. A certificate, duly signed by two timers and three judges, records that Hopkins, wearing a pair of artificial legs, walked a full mile

over the course of the Iowa State Fair in 13 minutes and 11 seconds. Hopkins was afterward beaten in a running race with George B. Hill, who is said to have made the world's record for legless men. The certificate states that on September 12, 1894, before the Nebraska Trotting Association, Ed. F. Hopkins and George B. Hill contested a fifty-yard foot race to decide a drawn race, time 9 1/4 sec-

onds, made at Des Moines, Iowa, September 5, 1894. In the second race Hill won in 8 seconds, over the course of the Nebraska State Fair. On October 7 Hopkins broke the world's record for a mile walk with artificial legs by making the distance in 13 minutes and 11 seconds. By this he broke the record by 3 minutes and 29 seconds. A big his other records are: Half mile walk, 6 minutes and 10 seconds, September 7, 1895; hundred yard dash, in 17 seconds, October 10, 1893.

These legless athletes by no means confine themselves to running and walking. Hopkins has made a standing broad jump of 5 feet 6 1/2 inches. Hill has made a standing back jump of 3 feet 10 inches and a standing broad jump of 6 feet 4 inches.



TO EXECUTE MURDERERS WITH GAS.

A bill, prepared by a responsible committee of physicians, will be introduced at the coming session of the Pennsylvania Legislature to abolish hanging, and provide that the death penalty be inflicted by asphyxiation. The condemned murderer will in future be killed by gas if this bill becomes a law.

The plan proposed is to introduce gas into the cell of the doomed man while he is asleep, and he simply never wakes up. A specially constructed cell for condemned prisoners will, of course, be necessary.

The question of saving pain or torture to a dying criminal has not been the sole object in view. The effect on society in general has been considered, and the purpose is to remove the brutalizing influence of the old methods of killing and prevent the injurious results to persons who are sick or of a nervous disposition, by the accounts and contemplation of the horrors of death by the rope or electric chair.

Dr. J. V. Chessrown, who is chairman of the committee of the Allegheny Medical Society, says: "We will present our report at the coming meeting of the Medical Society, and expect to have the matter before the Legislature early this Winter. We have considered every method in use, and have decided in favor of gas as the most practical and most humane."

"There are about fifteen odorless gases that would answer and bring speedy and painless death.

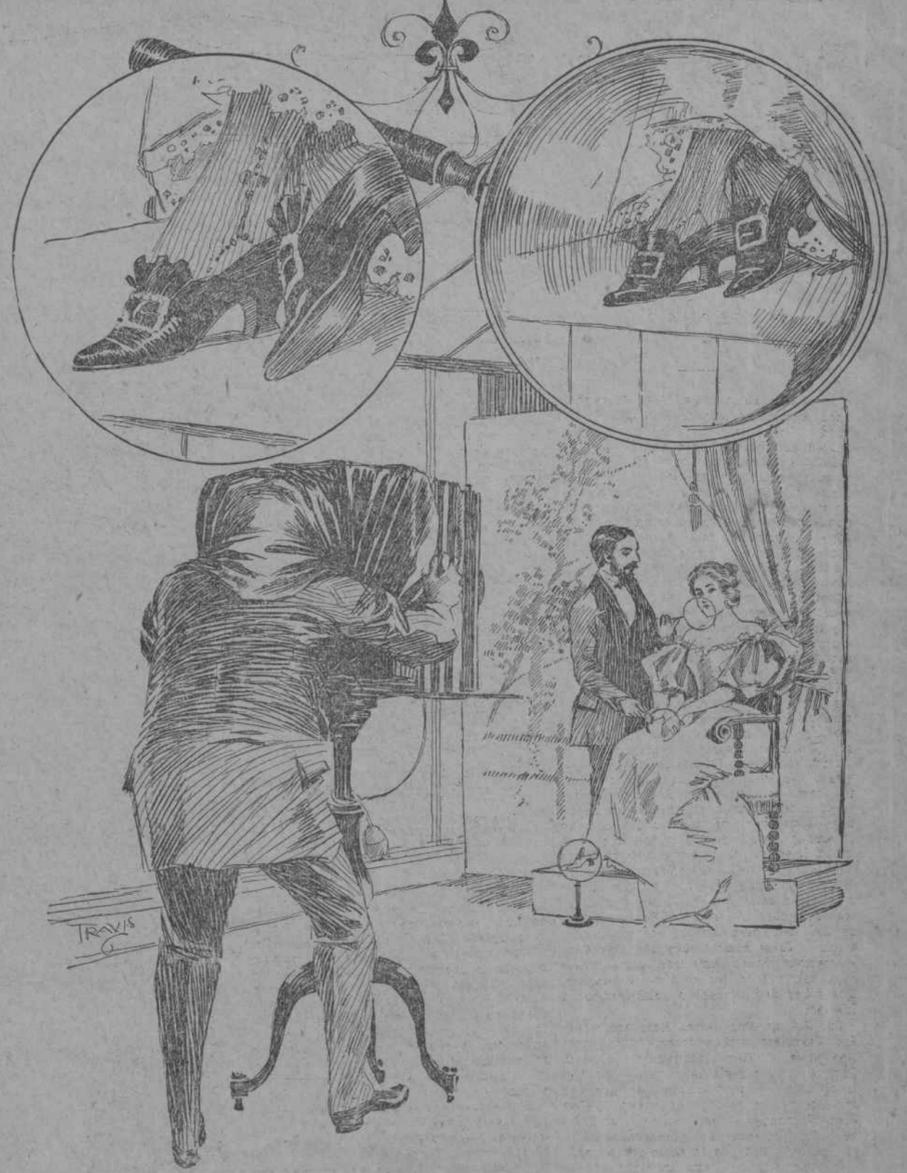
"The condemned would be placed in a cell that differed in no way in appearance from any other cell. The only difference at all would be in having a curtain that could be lowered over the front without noise to make the cell air-tight. Then a valve could be turned that in a few minutes would fill the cell with gas.

"The few preparations would be made while the condemned man was sleeping. They would be witnessed by a certain number of persons notified quietly beforehand. The valve would be turned by the Sheriff or Warden, and the condemned would pass from sleep to death. It would be an absolutely painless death."

Murderer



HOW TO MAKE YOUR HANDS AND FEET LOOK SMALL.



While He Sleeps.

Women Made Beautiful by a Photographic Secret.

The woman with Junoesque hands and feet can now have them appear in a picture as if they had been fashioned for Titania herself. If her nose be too prominent, and if her mouth be altogether too rich and ripe, she can have the defect remedied in the picture—and look as presentable as her most charming ideal.

How it is done is a secret. This is the secret: To begin with, every one knows that if you turn a microscope lens wrong side up and look through it, the result will be that the object looked at will seem smaller, rather than greater.

The person who is to have his or her picture taken is posed before the camera in the usual fashion. Over the part which it is desired to manipulate in the picture is placed a microscope lens in inverse ratio. The subject is posed, the camera focused, the button touched, and the trick is done.

The developing process is the same as with any other plate. But it is with genuine satisfaction that the demon of the dark room smiles when, after the usual acid bath, the outlines of the sunlight's art are apparent. There is the subject, and there is the nose. The latter has been greatly reduced. Art has gotten the better of nature. In a day or two the subject returns to the studio for the proof, and is delighted with the result. He has now as good a nose as any one could ask for, and his matrimonial chances are for once above par.

The same results may be accomplished

with an abnormally large foot or with big hands. Society beauties nowadays, aping the fashion set by actresses, are photographed in costume, with hair disheveled and bare feet in evidence, peeping from underneath the skirt. And if the foot requires reduction it is an easy matter for the photographic anatomist to make it appear, in the picture, of a classic contour.

Then there are the hands. It unfortunately happens that the young woman who looks at life from the windows of a \$400,000 residence often has much larger hands than the girl who waits on her at the great store. Nature is very capricious in this respect, and the respect that she ought to feel for the persons of the Four Hundred is not always in evidence. And so the photographer with his microscopic lens is often called upon to give the abnormal hand of his customer the appearance of the ideal proportions of a perfectly sculptured hand.

A great deal—in fact, everything—depends on the skill of the photographer, who must be a past master in the art of photographic illusion. And he charges his customers a good round sum for his success in improving on nature, but the bill is paid most cheerfully. As long as women are vain and are jealous of each other's beauty, so long will the artificial beauty photographer find a wide field for his talents and now they may have feet like the Princess Borghese's, which the Duke of Hamilton used to press against his bosom like little warm birds.

SOME WONDERFUL FEATS.

Each of them rides the bicycle very well. Hill is a particularly clever trick rider. He also won first prize in a half mile bicycle race at Pittsburg, on June 27, 1896. In this he competed with one-legged men, who were naturally at a great disadvantage. It may, therefore, be remarked that in the kingdom of the legless the one-legged man is not king.

Connolly and Leland are acrobats, and do a large variety of tricks. One partner has lost his right leg and the other the

left. They dress as one man, wearing one coat and one pair of trousers, and then together turn somersaults, walk on their hands and do other strange things.

Other performers of this class are the Kilpatrick's, husband and wife. Each has lost a right leg. They have helped one another and stood together on a somewhat difficult path through life. Mr. Kilpatrick rides a bicycle, and, while doing so, shoots at objects in his wife's hands. She is able to do similar things.